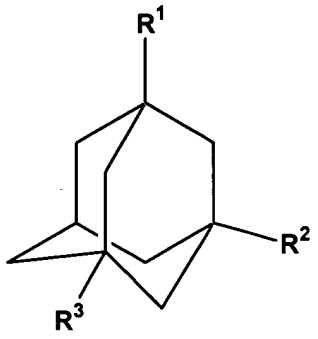
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A compound comprising the structure of Formula IA:




IA

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

$R^1$ is selected from the group consisting of H and OH;

$R^2$ is selected from the group consisting of $-C(=O)-COR^4$, ~~$-C(=O)NR^5R6$~~ $-C(=O)NR^5R^6-$, $C(X)_n-COR^4$ and $-C-NR^7R^8COR^4$,

wherein

X is a halogen;

n is from 1-2

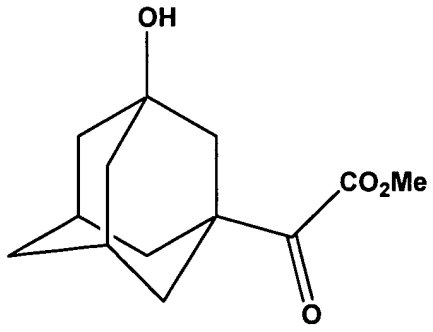
$R^4$ is selected from the group consisting of O-alkyl, $NH_2$ and OH; and

$R^5$, $R^6$, $R^7$ and $R^8$ are each selected from the group consisting of H and $COOR^9$,

wherein $R^9$ is a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; and

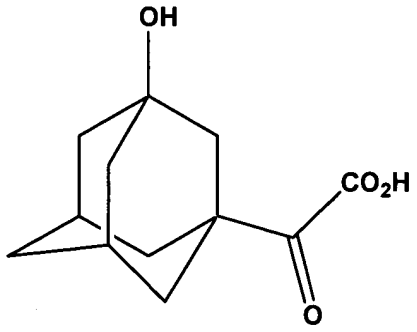
$R^3$ is selected from the group consisting of H or OH.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The compound of Claim 1 wherein the structure comprises Formula I,



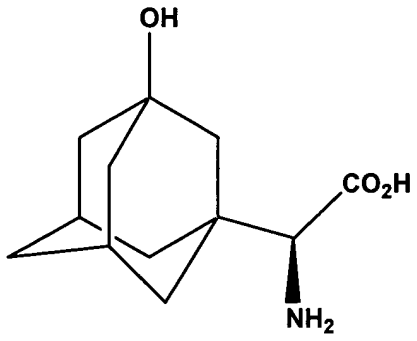

I .

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The compound of Claim 1 wherein the structure comprises Formula II,



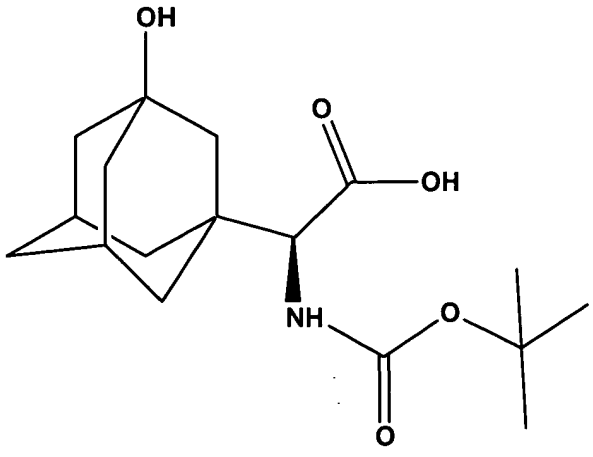

II .

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The compound of Claim 1 wherein the structure comprises Formula V,



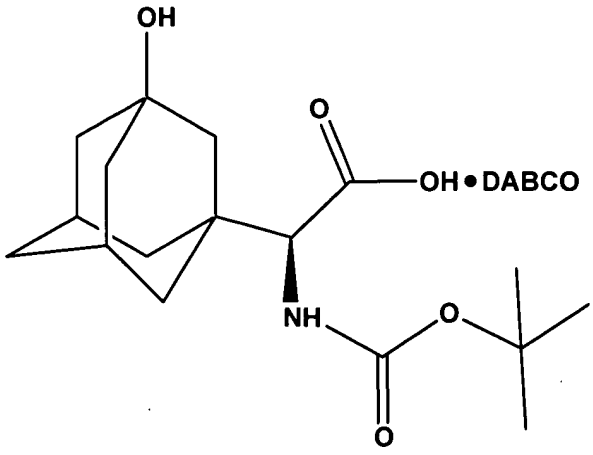

V .

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 1 wherein the structure comprises Formula VI,



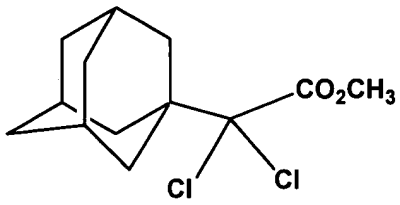

VI [[,]]

or its DABCO salt VIA



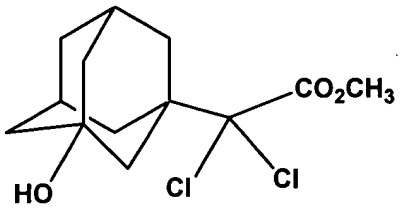

VIA

Claim 6. (Previously Presented) The compound of Claim 1 wherein the structure comprises Formula VII,



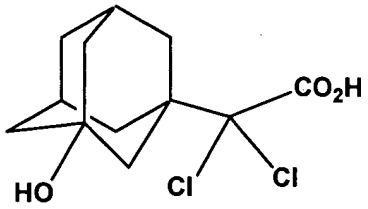

VII

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) The compound of Claim 1 wherein the structure comprises Formula VIII,



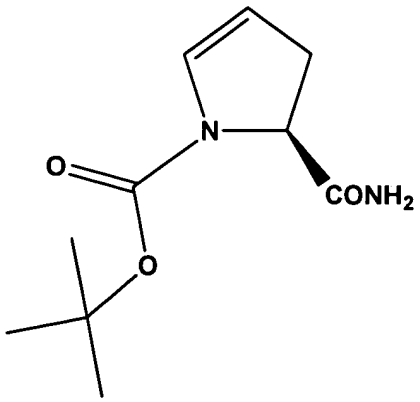

VIII

Claim 8. (Previously Presented) The compound of Claim 1 wherein the structure comprises Formula IX




IX

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) A compound comprising a structure of Formula IV,




IV

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a cyclopropyl-fused pyrrolidine-based inhibitor of dipeptidyl peptidase IV comprising:

(a) coupling (<aS)-<a[[(1,1-dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]amino]-3-hydroxytricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid or its 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane salt to (1S,3S,5S)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-3-carboxamide to produce 3-(aminocarbonyl)-<aS)-<a-(3-hydroxytricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]dec-1-yl)-<b-oxo-(1S,3S,5S)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2-ethanecarbamic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester;

(b) dehydrating 3-(aminocarbonyl)-<aS)-<a-(3-hydroxytricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]dec-1-yl)-<b-oxo-(1S,3S,5S)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2-ethanecarbamic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester to produce 3-cyano-(<aS)-<a-(3-hydroxytricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]dec-1-yl)-<b-oxo-(1S,3S,5S)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2-ethanecarbamic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester; and

(c) deprotecting 3-cyano-(<aS)-<a-(3-hydroxytricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]dec-1-yl)-<b-oxo-(1S,3S,5S)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2-ethanecarbamic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester to form the dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor.

Claim 11. (Original) The method of Claim 10 wherein (<aS)-<a[[(1,1-dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]amino]-3-hydroxytricyclo [3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid, step (a) is produced by protecting (<aS)-<a-amino-3-hydroxytricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid with BOC.

Claim 12. (Original) The method of Claim 10 further comprising asymmetrically reducing 3-hydroxy-<a-oxotricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid to produce (<aS)-<a-amino-3-hydroxytricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid by amination or transamination.

Claim 13. (Original) The method of Claim 10 further comprising chemically synthesizing (<aS)-<a-amino-3-hydroxytricyclo[3.3.1.13,7]decane-1-acetic acid from tricyclo [3.3.1.13,7]decane-1-acetic acid.

Claim 14. (Original) The method of Claim 10 wherein (1S,3S,5S)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-3-carboxamide of step (a) is produced by removal of BOC from [1S-(1<a,3<b,5<a]-3-aminocarbonyl)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester.

Claim 15. (Original) The method of Claim 14 wherein [1S-(1<a,3<b,5<a]-3-aminocarbonyl)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester is produced by cyclopropanation of (5S)-5-aminocarbonyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethyl ester via a Simmons-Smith Reaction.

Claim 16. (Original) A method for producing (<aS)-<a-amino-3-hydroxytricyclo [3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid as defined in Claim 4 comprising asymmetrically reducing 3-hydroxy-<a-oxotricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid by enzymatic amination or transamination.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented) A method for producing (<aS)-<a-amino-3-hydroxytricyclo [3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid as defined in Claim 4 comprising:

(a) brominating tricyclo [3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid into α-bromotricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid;

(b) reacting α-bromotricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid with $H_2SO_4$ and $HNO_3$ to produce α-bromo-3-hydroxytricyclo [3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid;

(c) dissolving α-bromo-3-hydroxytricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid in ammonium hydroxide and heating the reaction mixture;

(d) concentrating the reaction mixture to yield a chiral mixture (<aS)-<a-amino-3 hydroxytricyclo [3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid; and

(e) isolating (<aS)-<a-amino-3-hydroxytricyclo [3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid (Formula V) from the chiral mixture.

Claim 18. (Original) The method of Claim 15 wherein (5S)-5-aminocarbonyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethyl ester is produced by hydrolyzing 4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1,5-dicarboxylic acid, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl),5-ethyl ester by saponification with lithium hydroxide and forming an amide with mixed anhydride and mesyl chloride.

Claim 19. (Original) A cell line capable of producing (<aS)-<a-amino-3-hydroxytricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid (Formula V) as defined in Claim 4 by asymmetric reductive amination or transamination of 3-hydroxy-<a-oxotricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid (Formula II).

Claim 20. (Original) A method for producing 3-hydroxy-<a-oxotricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid as defined in Claim 3, which comprises treating dichloro-(3-hydroxy-adamantan-1-yl)-acetic acid alkyl ester with an alkali metal base in the presence of an organic solvent to form a reaction mixture containing the corresponding alkali metal salt, treating the reaction mixture with acid to form the corresponding 3-hydroxy-<a-oxotricyclo[3.3.1.1$^{3,7}$]decane-1-acetic acid product.

Claim 21. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 20 wherein the formation of product is carried out in a single pot procedure.

Claim 22. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 20 wherein the alkali metal base is sodium hydroxide and the acid is hydrochloric acid.

Claim 23. (Original) A method for preparing (5S)-5-aminocarbonyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylic acid, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)ester (IV) as defined in Claim 9, which comprises

providing an alkali metal salt of 4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1,5-dicarboxylic acid, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)ester, and

treating a solution of the alkali metal salt having a pH below 7 with 4-(4,6-dimethoxy-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)-4-methylmorpholinium chloride and with a base to form (5S)-5-aminocarbonyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylic acid, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl) ester (IV).

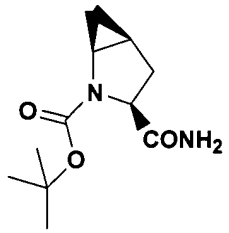
Claim 24. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 23 wherein the alkali metal salt is treated with ammonia as the base.

Claim 25. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 23 wherein the alkali metal salt is formed by treating the dicyclohexylamine salt of 4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1,5-dicarboxylic acid, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)ester with an alkali metal base to form the corresponding alkali metal salt.

Claim 26. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 23 wherein the alkali metal salt is formed by providing the ethyl ester of 4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1,5-dicarboxylic acid, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)ester XI and treating the ethyl ester with ethanol and sodium hydroxide.

Claim 27. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 25 wherein the dicyclohexylamine salt is prepared by treating a solution of 4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1,5-dicarboxylic acid, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)ester in ethanol and toluene with sodium hydroxide to form the corresponding sodium salt, and treating the sodium salt with t-butyl methyl ether and heptane to form a solution of the sodium salt, reducing the pH of the solution of sodium salt to about 2.5 to about 3 while maintaining temperature <5°C, separating out the resulting organic layer, and treating the organic layer with dicyclohexylamine to form the corresponding dicyclohexylamine salt.

Claim 28. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing [1S-(1<a,3<b,5<a)]-3-(aminocarbonyl)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ester of the structure

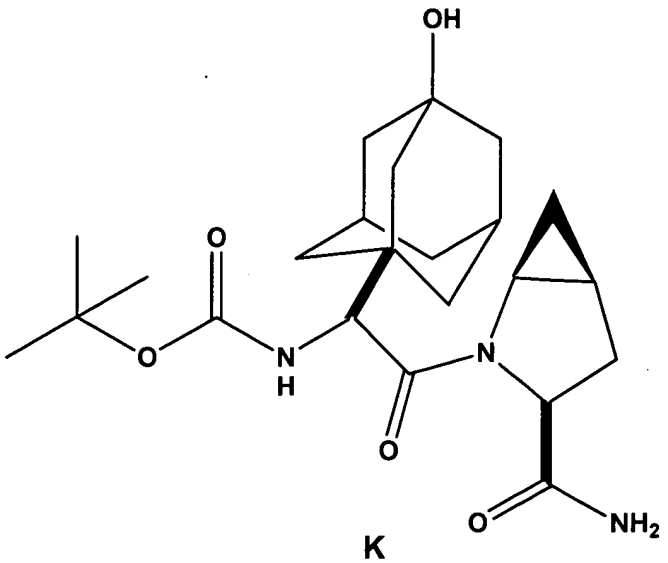



which comprises

treating a solution of 4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1,5-dicarboxylic acid, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl), 5-ethyl ester with diethyl zinc and chloro iodomethane and a reduced temperature of about -30°C to about 0°C to form a mixture of syn- and anti-isomers of N-BOC-methanoproline ethyl ester, treating the above mixture of isomers with an aqueous solution of methyl amine to separate out the syn-BOC-4,5-methanoproline ethyl ester isomer,

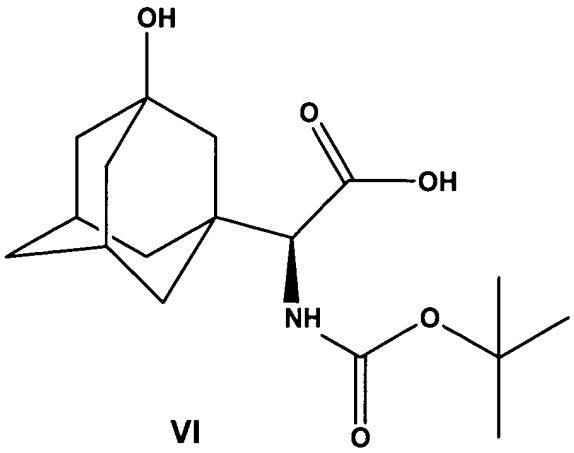
treating the syn-isomer with a strong base to yield syn-N-BOC-4,5-methanoproline, and treating the syn-N-BOC-4,5-methanoproline with N-methylmorpholine and isobutyl chloroformate, brine and ammonia to form [1S-(1<a,3<b,5<a)-3-(aminocarbonyl)-2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethylethyl ethyl ester.

Claim 29. (Original) A method for forming intermediate K of the structure



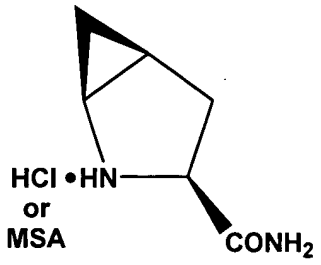

K

which comprises providing a protected compound VI




VI

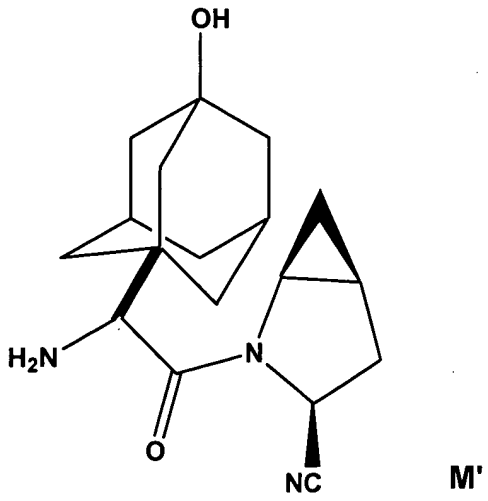
treating compound VI with mesyl chloride and Hunig base and compound J of the structure




J

and 1-hydroxybenzotriazole (HOBT) to form compound K.

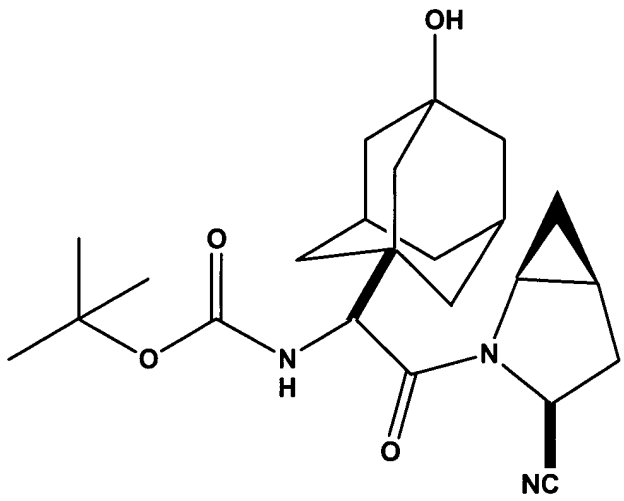
Claim 30. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing a free base compound of the structure M'




M'

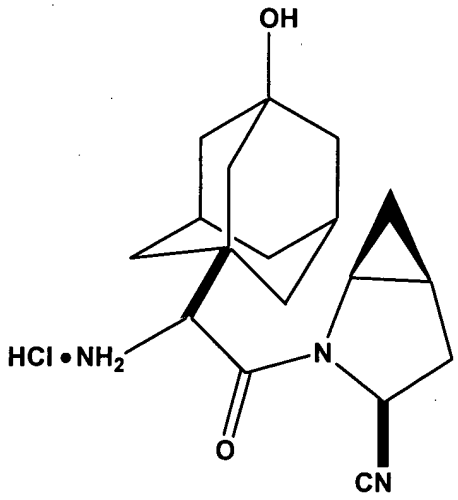
which comprises

providing a protected compound of the structure L




L

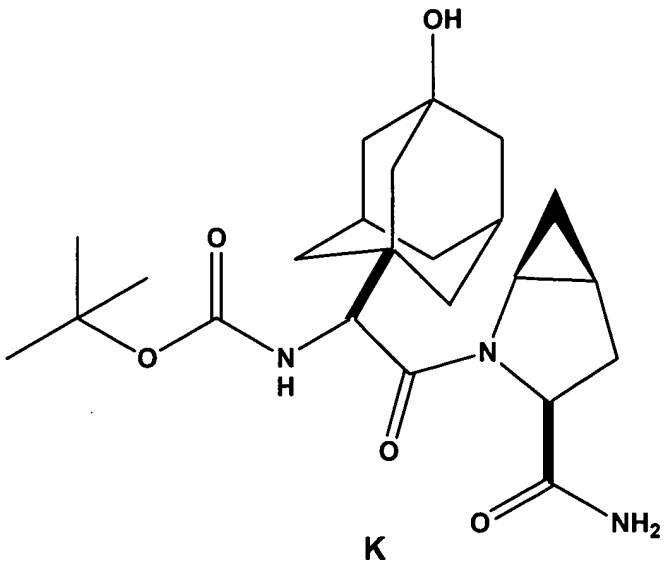
and treating compound L with hydrochloric acid to form the corresponding hydrochloric acid salt L′




L'

and treating compound L′ with sodium hydroxide to form the free base compound M′.

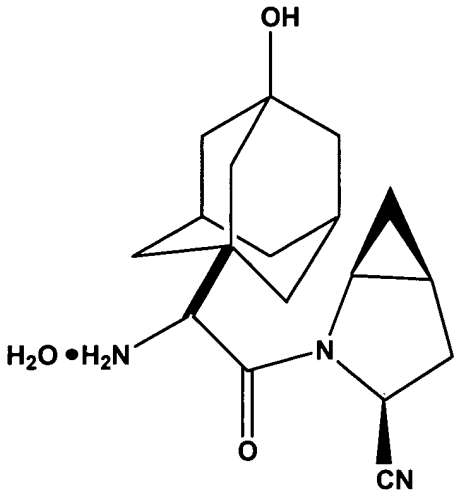
Claim 31. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 30 wherein compound L is formed by dehydrating intermediate K




K

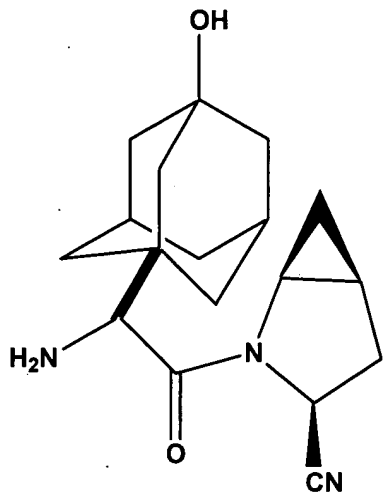
in the presence of pyridine and trifluoroacetic anhydride, and then hydrolyzing the reaction product in the presence of strong base to form compound L.

Claim 32. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing a monohydrate of the structure M″




M''

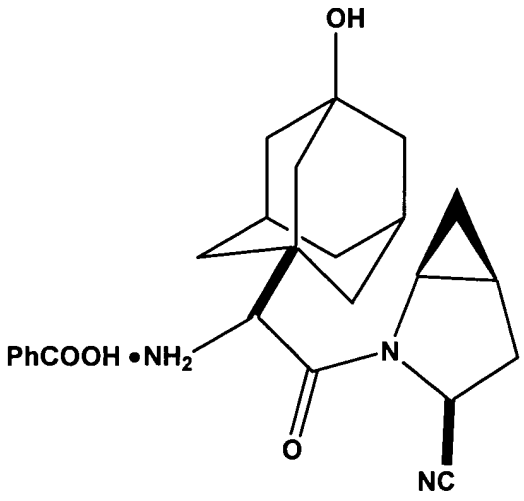
which comprises treating a free base of the structure




M'

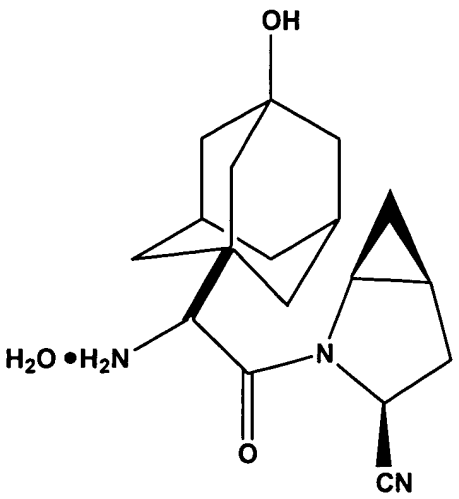
with water to form the monohydrate M".

Claim 33. (Previously Presented) A compound having the following structure




M

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) A compound having the following structure




M"